THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (c) No, Sir. However, some employees of the Krishna Godavari Project of ONGC Ltd. had resported to relay hunger protest from 30.1.1997 to 24.2.1997 in support of their demands relating to construction of office building and residential quarters at Rajahmundry; upgradation of Krishna Godavari project into an independent region etc. After a seried of meeting by ONGC officials with the representatives of employees, the relay hunger protest has been called off.

Expansion of the Refinery Industry

1997. DR. D. VENKATESHWAR RAO: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether, with the liberalisation of economy and entry of private sector, Government have decided to have a major expansion programme in the refinery industry;

(b) if so, whether the existing/ operating refineries are of 54 MT PA capcity;

(c) whether all the 12 operating refineries are old and have not been expanded so far:

(d) whether any concrete programme for expansion of these refineries has been undertaken; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The present refining capacity in the country is 60.55 MMTPA.

(c) to (e) At present there are 14 refineries operating in the country.

Participation of MPs in the meeting of District Development Councils

1998. DR. RANBIR SINGH:
SHRI RAM NATH KOVIND:

Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have been requested to issue instructions to State Governments to allow MPs to participate in the meetings of district development councils concerning segments of their constituency;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether necessary instructions have since been issued in this regard;

(d) if so, the details thereof; if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH): (a) to (d) The Department of Programme Implementation does not deal with matters relating to District Development Councils, nor has it received any request to issue instructions to State Government to allow Members of Parliament to participate in the meetings of District Development Councils.

Development of Hill Areas of Andhra Pradesh

1999. SHRI K. K. KHAN: Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether some projects for development of Hill areas of Andhra Pradesh have been undertaken under the scheme for special central assistance;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor, with steps to be taken in this regard, on the lines of similar projects undertaken in other hill areas of the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH): (a) to (c) No Sir. Special Central Assistance (SCA) under Hill Area Development Programme (HADP) is allocated to Designated Hill Areas and no area of Andhra Pradesh is covered under HADP.

Non-Implementation of Central Development Projects in Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh

2000. SHRI K.M. KHAN: Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether some requests for an enquiry into the reasons for non-implementation of Central Developmental Projects in Tamil Nadu have been received.

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether similar projects are not being implemented in Andhra Pradesh also;

(d) whether Government propose to take action to ensure timely implementation of these projects; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH): (a) No Sir. No reqeust for an enquiry into the reasons for non-implementation of central projects in Tamil Nadu has been received in the Department of Programme Implementation.

(b) Question does not arise.

(c) As on 31.12.1996, excluding multi-state projects passing through the State, there were 16 central sector developmental projects under implementation in Tamil Nadu with total anticipated cost of Rs. 6424.9 crores and 36 developmental projects under implementation in Andhra Pradesh with total anticipated cost of Rs. 5381.2 crore.

(d) and (e) Measures are taken from time to time for reducing time and cost overruns. A list of such measures is at Statement.

Statement

Steps taken by the Government to streamline for preparing the original Estimates and Implementation of Projects for Reducing Overrun.

(i) Two-stage project approval.

(ii) On. line computerised monitoring system is being implemented.

(iii) Intensive monitoring of projects at various levels to identify constraints and the remedial measures.

(iv) Formation of Empowered Committees with adequate financial powers.

(v) Review by the Committee of Secretaries of the specific projects facing constraints.

(vi) Setting up of projects management team with tenure co-terminus with the gestation period of the project.

(vii) Improving contract management system.

(viii) Delegation of powers to field level executives.

Scs/Sts below the Poverty Line in Gujarat

2001. SHRI AHMED PATEL: Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have conducted any survey to find out the estimated population belonging to SCs and STs, living below the poverty line.

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the details of steps being taken by Government to improve their lot?